

PRI

This little impudent hardware-man turns into ridicule the direful apprehensions of the whole kingdom, *priding himself as the cause of them.* *Swift's Miscel.*

PRIE. *n. f.* I suppose an old name of privet.

Lop poplar and fallow, elme, maple and *prie*,
Wel faved from cattel, till summer to lie. *Tusser.*

PRIEF for *proof*. *Spenser.*

PRIER. *n. f.* [from *pry*.] One who enquires too narrowly.

PRIEST. *n. f.* [priest, Sax. *preste*, Fr.]

1. One who officiates in sacred offices.

I'll to the vicar,
Bring you the maid, you shall not lack a *priest*. *Shaksp.*

The high *priest* shall not uncover his head. *Lev. xxi. 10.*

Our practice of finging differs from the practice of David,
the *priests* and Levites. *Peucham.*

These pray'r I thy *priest* before thee bring. *Milton.*

2. One of the second order in the hierarchy, above a deacon,
below a bishop.

No neighbours, but a few poor simple clowns,
Honest and true, with a well-meaning *priest*. *Rowe.*

PRIESTCRAFT. *n. f.* [*priest* and *craft*.] Religious frauds;
management of wicked priests to gain power.

Puzzle has half a dozen common-place topics; though
the debate be about Doway, his discourse runs upon bigotry
and *priestcraft*. *Speclator.*

From *priestcraft* happily set free,
Lo! ev'ry finish'd motion returns to thee. *Pope.*

PRIESTRESS. *n. f.* [from *priest*.] A woman who officiated in
heaven rites.

Then too, our mighty sire, thou stood'st disarm'd,
When thy rap soul the lovely *priestess* charm'd,
That Rome's high founder bore. *Addison.*

These two, being the sons of a lady who was *priestess* to
Juno, drew their mother's chariot to the temple. *Speclator.*

She as *priestess* knows the rites,
Wherein the God of earth delights. *Swift's Miscel.*

Th' inferior *priestess*, at her altar's side,
Trembling, begins the sacred rites of pride. *Pope.*

PRIESTHOOD. *n. f.* [from *priest*.]

1. The office and character of a priest.

Jeroboam is reproved, because he took the *priesthood* from
the tribe of Levi. *Whitgift.*

The *priesthood* hath in all nations, and all religions, been
held highly venerable. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

2. The order of men set apart for holy offices.

Is your *priesthood* grown so peremptory? *Shaksp.*

He pretends, that I have fallen foul on *priesthood*. *Dryden.*

3. The second order of the hierarchy. See **PRIEST.**

PRIESTHOOD. *n. f.* [from *priestly*.] The appearance or man-
ner of a priest.

PRIESTLY. *adj.* [from *priest*.] Becoming a priest; sacerdotal;
belonging to a priest.

In the Jewish church, none that was blind or lame was
capable of the *priestly* office. *South's Sermons.*

How can incest suit with holiness,
Or *priestly* orders with a princely state? *Dryden.*

PRIESTRIDEN. *adj.* [*priest* and *ridden*.] Managed or go-
vern'd by priests.

Such a cant of high-church and persecution, and being
priestridden. *Swift.*

TO PRIEVE for *prove*. *Spenser.*

PRIG. *n. f.* [A cant word derived perhaps from *prick*, as he
pricks up, he is *pert*; or from *prickeard*, an epithet of re-
proach bestowed upon the presbyterian teachers.] A pert,
conceited, saucy, pragmatical, little fellow.

The little man concluded, with calling monsieur Meznager
an insignificant *prig*. *Speclator, N° 482.*

There have I seen some active *prig*,
To fiew his parts, bestride a twig. *Swift's Miscel.*

PRILL. *n. f.* A bird or turbot. *Ainsworth.*

PRIM. *adj.* [by contraction from *primitive*.] Formal; precise;
affectedly nice.

A ball of new dropt horse's dung,
Mingling with apples in the throng,
Said to the pippin, plump and *prim*,
See, brother, how we apples swim. *Swift's Miscel.*

TO PRIM. *v. a.* [from the adjective.] To deck up precisely;
to form to an affected nicety.

PRIMACY. *n. f.* [*primatie*, *primace*, Fr. *primatus*, Lat.] The
chief ecclesiastical station.

When he had now the *primacy* in his own hand, he thought
he should be to blame if he did not apply remedies. *Clarend.*

PRIMAGE. *n. f.* The freight of a ship. *Ainsworth.*

PRIMAL. *adj.* [*primus*, Lat.] First. A word not in use, but
very commodious for poetry.

It hath been taught us from the *primal* state,
That he, which is, was with'd, until he were. *Shaksp.*

Oh! my offence is rank, it smells to heav'n,
It hath the *primal*, eldest curse upon't. *Shaksp.*

PRIMARILY. *adv.* [from *primary*.] Originally; in the first
intention; in the first place.

In fevers, where the heart *primarily* suffereth, we apply
medicines unto the wrists. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

4

PRI

These considerations so exactly suiting the parable of the
wedding-supper to this spiritual banquet of the gospel, if it
does not *primarily*, and in its first design, intend it; yet cer-
tainly it may, with greater advantage of resemblance, be ap-
plied to it, than to any other duty. *South's Sermons.*

PRIMARINESS. *n. f.* [from *primary*.] The state of being first
in act or intention.

That which is peculiar, must be taken from the *primari-
ness* and secondariness of the perception. *Norris.*

PRIMARY. *adj.* [*primarius*, Lat.]

1. First in intention.

The figurative notation of this word, and not the *primary*
or literal, belongs to this place. *Hammond.*

2. Original; first.

Before that beginning, there was neither *primary* matter to
be informed, nor form to inform, nor any being but the
eternal. *Raleigh's History of the World.*

When the ruins both *primary* and secondary were settled,
the waters of the abyss began to settle too. *Burnet.*

These I call original or *primary* qualities of body, which
produce simple ideas in us, viz. solidity, extension, figure
and motion. *Locke.*

3. First in dignity; chief; principal.

As the six *primary* planets revolve about him, so the se-
condary ones are moved about them in the same unequal
proportion of their periodical motions to their orbs. *Bentley.*

PRIMATE. *n. f.* [*primat*, Fr. *primas*, Lat.] The chief eccle-
siastick.

When the power of the church was first established, the
archbishops of Canterbury and York had then no prehe-
mence one over the other; the former being *primate* over the
Southern, as the latter was over the Northern parts. *Ascham.*

The late and present *primate*, and the lord archbishop of
Dublin hath left memorials of his bounty. *Swift.*

PRIMATESHIP. *n. f.* [from *primate*.] The dignity or office
of a *primate*.

PRIME. *n. f.* [*primus*, Lat.]

1. The first part of the day; the dawn; the morning.

His larum bell might loud and wide be heard
When cause requir'd, but never out of time,
Early and late it rung at evening and at *prime*. *Spenser.*

Sure pledge of day, that crown'd the smiling morn
With thy bright circlet, praise him in thy sphere
While day arises, that sweet hour of *prime*. *Milton.*

2. The beginning; the early days.

Quickly fundry arts mechanical were found out in the very
prime of the world. *Hooker, b. i. f. 10.*

3. The best part.

Give no more to ev'ry guest,
Than he's able to digest,
Give him always of the *prime*,
And but little at a time. *Swift.*

4. The spring of life; the height of health, strength or beauty.

Make haste, sweet love, whilst it is *prime*,
For none can call again the passed time. *Spenser.*

Will she yet debate her eyes on me,
That crot the golden *prime* of this sweet prince,
And made her widow to a woful bed? *Shaksp. Rich. III.*

Youth, beauty, wisdom, courage, virtue, all
That happiness and *prime* can happy call. *Shaksp.*

Likeliest the seem'd to Ceres in her *prime*. *Milton.*

No poet ever sweetly sung,
Unless he were, like Phœbus, young;
Nor ever nymph inspir'd to rhyme,
Unless, like Venus, in her *prime*. *Swift.*

Short were her marriage joys; for in the *prime*
Of youth, her lord expir'd before his time. *Dryden.*

5. Spring.

Hope waits upon the flow'ry *prime*,
And summer, though it be less gay,
Yet is not look'd on as a time
Of declination or decay. *Waller.*

The poet and his theme in spite of time,
For ever young enjoys an endless *prime*. *Graville.*

6. The plants which now appear in the most different seasons,
would have been all in *prime*, and flourishing together at the
same time. *Woodward.*

7. The first canonical hour.

The first part; the beginning: as, the *prime* of the moon.

PRIME. *adj.* [*primus*, Lat.]

1. Early; blooming.

His itary helm unbuckl'd, shew'd him *prime*
In manhood, where youth ended. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

2. Principal; first rate.

Divers of *prime* quality, in several counties, were, for re-
fusing to pay the same, committed to prison. *Clarendon.*

Nor can I think, that God will so destroy
We his *prime* creatures dignify'd to high. *Milton.*

Humility and resignation are our *prime* virtues. *Dryden.*

3. First;

PRI

3. First; original.

We smother'd
The most replenish'd sweet work of nature,
That from the *prime* creation e'er she fram'd. *Shaksp.*

Moses being chosen by God to be the ruler of his people,
will not prove that priesthood belonged to Adam's heir, or the
prime fathers. *Locke.*

4. Excellent. It may, in this loose sense, perhaps admit,
though scarcely with propriety, a superlative.

We are contented with
Catharine our queen, before the *primst* creature
That's paragon'd i' th' world. *Shaksp. Henry VIII.*

TO PRIME. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To put in the first powder; to put powder in the pan of a
gun.

A pistol of about a foot in length, we *primed* with well-
dried gunpowder. *Boyle.*

Prime all your firelocks, fasten well the stake. *Gay.*

His friendship was exactly tim'd,
He shot before your foes were *prim'd*. *Swift's Miscel.*

2. [Primer, Fr. to begin.] To lay the first colours on in paint-
ing. A Gallicism.

PRIMELY. *adv.* [from *prime*.]

1. Originally; primarily; in the first place; in the first inten-
tion.

Words signify not immediately and *primely* things them-
selves, but the conceptions of the mind about them. *Scout.*

2. Excellently; supremely well. A low sense.

PRIMENESS. *n. f.* [from *prime*.]

1. The state of being first.

2. Excellence.

PRIMER. *n. f.*

1. An office of the blessed Virgin.

Another prayer to her is not only in the manual, but in
the *primer* or office of the blessed Virgin. *Stillingfleet.*

2. [Primer, Lat.] A small prayer book in which children
are taught to read, so named from the Romish book of devo-
tions; an elementary book.

The Lord's prayer, the creed and ten commandments
he should learn by heart, not by reading them himself in his
primer, but by somebody's repeating them before he can
read. *Locke on Education.*

PRIMERO. *n. f.* [Spanish.] A game at cards.

I left him at *primero*

With the duke of Suffolk. *Shaksp. Henry VIII.*

PRIMEVAL. *adj.* [*primævus*, Lat.] Original; such as was
PRIMEVOUS. *adj.* at first.

Immortal dove,
Thou with almighty energy did'st move
On the wild waves, incumbent did'st display
Thy genial wings, and hatch *primeval* day. *Blackmore.*

All the parts of this great fabric change;
Quit their old stations and *primeval* frame,
And lose their shape, their essence, and their name. *Prior.*

PRIMITIAL. *adj.* [*primitivus*, Lat.] Being of the first
production. *Ainsworth.*

PRIMITIVE. *adj.* [*primitivus*, Fr. *primitivus*, Lat.]

1. Ancient; original; established from the beginning.

Their superstition pretends, they cannot do God greater
service, than utterly to destroy the *primitive* apostolical go-
vernment of the church by bishops. *King Charles.*

David reflects sometimes upon the present form of the
world, and sometimes upon the *primitive* form of it. *Burnet.*

The doctrine of purgatory, by which they mean an estate
of temporary punishments after this life, was not known in
the *primitive* church, nor can be proved from scripture. *Tillot.*

2. Formal; affectedly solemn; imitating the supposed gravity
of old times.

3. Original; primary; not derivative: as, in grammar, a *pri-
mitive verb*.

Our *primitive* great fire, to meet
His godlike guest, walks forth. *Milton.*

PRIMITIVELY. *adv.* [from *primitive*.]

1. Originally; at first.

Solemnities and ceremonies, *primitively* enjoined, were af-
terward omitted, the occasion ceasing. *Brewer.*

2. Primarily; not derivatively.

According to the original rule; according to ancient practice.

The purest and most *primitively* reformed church in the
world was laid in the dust. *South's Sermons.*

PRIMITIVENESS. *n. f.* [from *primitive*.] State of being origi-
nal; antiquity; conformity to antiquity.

PRIMNESS. *n. f.* [from *prim*.] Affected niceness or formality.

PRIMOGENIAT. *adj.* [*primogenitus*, Lat. it should therefore have
been written *primigenial*.] Firstborn; original; primary;
constituent; elemental.

The *primogenial* light at first was diffused over the face of
the unfashioned chaos. *Clarendon.*

It is not easy to discern, among many differing substances
obtained from the same matter, what *primogenial* and simple
bodies convened together compose it. *Boyle.*

The first or *primogenial* earth, which rose out of the chaos,
was not like the present earth. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

PRI

PRI

PRIMOGENITURE. *n. f.* [*primogenitura*, Fr. from *primus* *genitus*,
Lat.] Seniority; elderhip; state of being firstborn.

Because the scripture affordeth the priority of order unto
Sem, we cannot from hence infer his *primogeniture*. *Brown.*

The first provoker has, by his seniority and *primogeniture*,
a double portion of the guilt. *Government of the Tongue.*

PRIMO'DIAL. *adj.* [*primordial*, Fr. *primordium*, Lat.] Orig-
inal; existing from the beginning.

Salts may be either transmutated or otherwise produced, and
so may not be *primordial* and immutable beings. *Boyle.*

PRIMO'DIAL. *n. f.* [from the *adj.*] Origin; first principle.

The *primordials* of the world are not mechanical, but sper-
matical and vital. *More's Divine Dialogues.*

PRIMO'DIAN. *n. f.* See **PLUM**, of which it is a species.

PRIMO'DIATE. *adj.* [from *primordium*, Lat.] Original; ex-
isting from the first.

Not every thing chymists will call salt, sulphur or spirit, that
needs always be a *primordiate* and ingenerable body. *Boyle.*

PRIMOSE. *n. f.* [*primula veris*, Lat.] A plant.

The flower of the *primrose* consists of one leaf, the lower
part of which is tubulose, but the upper part expands itself
flat in form of a falver, and is cut into several segments;
from the flower-cup, which is fistulous, arises the pointal,
which, when the flower is decayed, becomes an oblong fruit
or hulk, lying almost concealed in the flower-cup, and opens
at the top, in which are contained many roundish seeds
fastened to the placenta. *Miller.*

Pale *primroses*,
That die unmarried, ere they can behold
Bright Phœbus in his strength. *Shaksp. Winter's Tale.*

I would look pale as *primrose*. *Shaksp. Henry VI.*

There followeth, for the latter part of January, *primroses*,
anemones, the early tulip. *Bacon's Essays.*

2. *Primrose* is used by *Shakespeare* for gay or flowery.

I had thought to have let in some of all professions, that go
the *primrose* way to the everlasting bonfire. *Shaksp.*

PRINCE. *n. f.* [*princeps*, Fr. *princeps*, Lat.]

1. A sovereign; a chief ruler.

Celestial! whether among the thrones, or nam'd
Of them the highest; for such of shape may seem
Prince above *princes*. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. xi.*

Forces come to be used by good *princes*, only upon necessity
of providing for their defence. *Temple.*

Elau founded a distinct people and government, and was
himself a distinct *prince* over them. *Locke.*

The succession of crowns, in several countries, places it
on different heads, and he comes, by succession, to be a *prince*
in one place, who would be a subject in another. *Locke.*

Had we no histories of the Roman emperors, but on their
money, we should take them for most virtuous *princes*. *Addison.*

Our tottering state still distracted stands,
While that *prince* threatens, and while this commands. *Pope.*

2. A sovereign of rank next to kings.

3. Ruler of whatever sex.